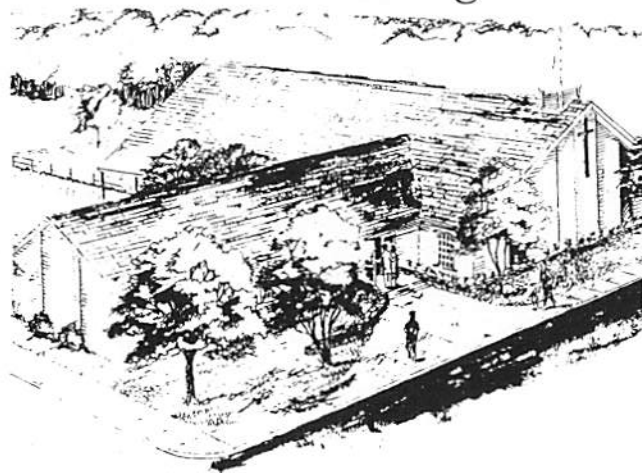


St. Paul's Church Will Start Building



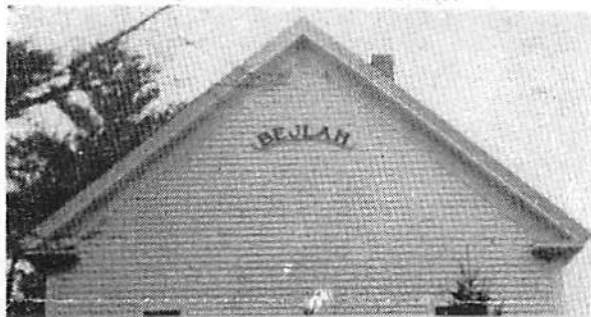
When St. Paul's Church of the Nazarene begins building its new sanctuary this spring, it will be the culmination of 82 years of trials, tribulations and triumphs.

"The target date for the new construction is April," said the Rev. Stephen Perry, the pastor of St. Paul's, a small, white church tucked in among the pine trees of Summer St., "although we still have to get approval from the board of appeals."

St. Paul's got its start almost a century ago as a tiny, non-denominational chapel.

The church started in the 1890s, with meetings held by Mrs. L. Caroline Staples in a hall over Keene's Store. Mrs. Staples, who must have been a dedicated lady, drove down from Melrose in a horse and buggy on Saturday, so she could be there on Sunday morning.

In the fall of 1902, a group of people who had been attending Mrs. Staples' meeting got together, raised money with a "free-will offering," and built the non-denominational Beulah Chapel on land donated by Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hunt of Duxbury on the Duxbury-East Pembroke border.



When the Duxbury Church of the Nazarene was formed, there were 12 charter members. They were Anne Carlson, Phil Chatto, Marsie Chatto, Evelyn Fernandes, Norman Hardy, Annabell Hardy, Marjorie Huff, Lawrence Moore, Madeline Moore, Elsie Randall and Lillian Randall.

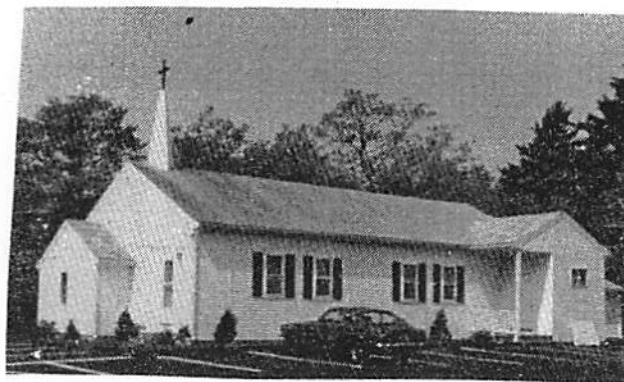
Phil Chatto, who was ordained during the ministry of Rev. Moore and served as a co-worker under Moore, has gone on to pastor several large Nazarene churches including one in Allentown, PA and Manchester, CT.

Rev. John Hathaway, another Eastern Nazarene College man, was the first to receive a salary, \$5 a week. He stayed at Duxbury for 2 years then left to go to seminary. He eventually entered the Navy and is now serving as a chaplain.

He was followed by the Rev. John Cramer, now a minister in Maryland and by the Rev. Jack Shankel, now the district superintendent of the Maine district of the Church of the Nazarene. It was under the Rev. Shankel that the church bought the land from Quincy Oil Co., on which the present church stands. He did much of the work clearing the land to get it ready to build.

Rev. Edwin Simpson, who is now a pastor in New Jersey, became minister just in time to dedicate the new church. While Rev. Simpson was pastor, and before the new building was finished, Beulah Chapel was partially destroyed by fire. For awhile the congregation worshipped in a Seventh Day Adventist Church in Ashdod and in the Unitarian Church in Duxbury.

The building, which was built so it could be converted into a ranch-style home if the mortgage was not paid, was completed and dedicated on Feb. 13, 1966. It voted to change its name to St. Paul's Church of the Nazarene on Oct. 24, 1965.



St. Paul's Church of the Nazarene on Summer St.

Rev. Wylie Rudolph pastored next, followed by Tylor Wooster, who along with his brother Ray, built the breezeway between the present church and the annex. The Woosters still live in Duxbury. Tyler is now a teacher in Hanover and is still active in the church. The church continued to grow under the ministry of Rev. Ken Rowlett, and Tom Wilson, who instituted an active singles group, and Dan DeWeese.

By the time Perry came, it was time to build to accommodate a Sunday morning congregation that has more than outgrown the old building. St. Paul's, which once had 4 regular worshippers, now has 105 members and averages 170 in Sunday morning service, 125 in Sunday school. It has a singles group and a large, active youth group.

With the new sanctuary, Perry projects a growth of 25% over the next 4 years. When the proposed building is finished, it will be one of the larger church buildings in town.

"It will have 2 floors, a full basement and a main floor with 5,000 square feet on each floor," Perry said. "The main floor will include the sanctuary, which will seat 300, but it will have the capacity to be enlarged to seat 450 worshippers."

The new plans will include the existing sanctuary, which will be set off to the left of the new building.

"In this part of the complex, we will have 2 nurseries, a toddler nursery and a crib nursery," said Perry. "There will also be one Sunday school classroom and an entrance way with a cloak room. Downstairs, in the basement, there will be folding partitions for classrooms, which can be folded back to turn the basement into a large fellowship hall. It will open out onto a sunken patio, which will provide wheelchair access."

To prepare for the new construction, the church started a building fund last year. There has been \$105,000 pledged and \$62,000 has already been given.

"We'll be able to start building in April because the Nazarene Church headquarters will guarantee the loan. We're hoping the new sanctuary won't cost any more than \$200,000," said Perry.

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Vote on Saturday!!!



Mrs. Anna Wainwright, who served as custodian of the newly built chapel, was another dedicated woman. She kept the chapel clean and made sure a warm wood fire was burning in the black pot-bellied stove, before the service began on cold Sunday mornings. She was also the treasurer. Instead of taking a collection, like most churches do today, Beulah Chapel had a small box nailed to the right-hand door casing and as each person left, he or she put money in the box.

Essie Randall, who has been going to the church, first at Beulah Chapel and then at St. Paul's for the past 50 years, remembers those early days.

"I've been going to the church since I was a little girl," said Mrs. Randall, who attends now with her daughter, Lillian Sprague, and her grandchildren.

"Back in the early days, the church was over on Union St," she said. "There was a wood stove for heat and a path into the woods for other comforts and we used to have Sunday School up in back of the organ." She rarely missed church on Sunday morning.

"It has always been a friendly church," she said. "It's always been a part of my life. We kids used to walk over 2 miles every Sunday morning to get here.

"It never was very big. In the good times, when we had a minister, it might get up around 30. At its lowest ebb, there were only 4."

Rev. Lawrence Moore, from Eastern Nazarene College in Quincy, was the first minister of the Church of the Nazarene to serve at the Chapel. On April 30, 1950, during his pastorate, Beulah Chapel was incorporated into the Duxbury Church of the Nazarene.

The Moores bought the little house in back of the present church as the church's first parsonage.

The congregation was very small at the beginning of Rev. Moore's 10-year stay. He received no salary, supporting his family from money made from his profession as a certified public accountant. Older members remember him as a courageous man, who walked with the aid of 2 canes because of a bout with polio that he contracted when he was 21 years old.